



**SB 512 - HB 608**

February 16, 2020

**SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL:** Creates an additional trial court in the 23<sup>rd</sup> judicial district (Cheatham, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, and Stewart Counties). Requires the Governor to appoint a person to serve as judge or chancellor until September 1, 2020, or until the person's successor is elected and qualified. The effective date of this legislation is September 1, 2019

**FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:**

Increase State Expenditure - \$271,900/FY19-20  
\$296,600/FY20-21 and Subsequent Years

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (014737):** Deletes all language after the enacting clause. Creates one additional trial court in each of the following judicial districts: fourth, twelfth, thirteenth, nineteenth, twentieth, twenty-second, and thirty-first. Creates two additional trial courts in the twenty-third judicial district. Requires the Governor to appoint a person to serve as judge or chancellor until September 1, 2022, or until the person's successor is elected and qualified for each additional trial court.

**FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**

**Increase State Expenditures - \$2,447,300/FY20-21  
\$2,669,000/FY21-22 and Subsequent Years**

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- The proposed legislation creates nine additional trial courts in eight judicial districts.
- The Governor shall appoint a person to serve in each judgeship until the August 2022 election.
- The recurring salary and benefits for a trial judge are \$215,385 (\$176,377 salary + \$39,008 benefits).
- Additionally, the judge position will require recurring funding for supplies, travel, rent, utilities, legal subscriptions, etc., estimated to be \$27,000 per year, and one-time funding of \$23,000 for furniture, computer, software, other equipment, books, etc.
- The court will not be created until September 1, 2020.
- The expenditures relative to the judge in FY20-21 are estimated to be \$224,979  $\{[(\$215,385 + \$27,000) \times 0.8333 \text{ partial year}] + \$23,000\}$  per judgeship.
- The FY20-21 increase in state expenditures is \$2,024,811  $(\$224,979 \times 9)$ .

- Each judge has a legal secretary who receives a salary of \$39,800.
- The recurring salary and benefits for a legal secretary are \$52,973 (\$39,800 salary + \$13,173 benefits).
- Additionally, the legal secretary position will require recurring funding for travel estimated to be \$1,200 per year, and one-time funding of \$1,800 for furniture, computer, software, other equipment, etc.
- The expenditures relative to each secretary in FY20-21 are estimated to be \$46,942  $\{[(\$52,973 + \$1,200) \times 0.8333 \text{ partial year}] + \$1,800\}$ .
- The FY20-21 increase in expenditures is \$422,478  $(\$46,942 \times 9)$ .
- The total increase in state expenditures in FY20-21 is estimated to be \$2,447,289  $(\$2,024,811 + \$422,478)$ .
- The total recurring increase in state expenditures in FY21-22 and subsequent years is estimated to be \$2,669,022  $[(\$215,385 + \$27,000 + \$52,973 + \$1,200) \times 9]$ .

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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